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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)
Sheet 1 of 3

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Confirmation Number	6087
Application Number	09/734,787
Filing Date	December 13, 2000
First Named Inventor	Mark A. Ritchart
Group Art Unit	3736
Examiner Name	Jonathan M. Foreman
Attorney Docket Number	END0712USCNT2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Cite	U.S. Patent Document				
Examiner Initials		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		4,517,977		Richard B. Frost	05-21-1985	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant	-91
		Office ³ Number ⁴ KindCode ⁵		ndCode ⁵	Applicant of Cited Document	mm-dd-yyyy	passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		DE	935625		Bodendieck et al.	05-12-1955		
		EP	0378692	A1	Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd.	07-25-1990		
		EP	0442851	B1	Mauro Caponi	08-21-1991		
_	-							

Examiner	Date	
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Confirmation Number	6087
Application Number	09/734,787
Filing Date	December 13, 2000
First Named Inventor	Mark A. Ritchart
Group Art Unit	3736
Examiner Name	Jonathan M. Foreman
Attorney Docket Number	END0712USCNT2

		OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner's Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T²
		"ASAP™ - Automatic Soft Tissue Biopsy System"; Microvasive® - Boston Scientific Corporation; 1992; 2 pages.	
		"NEW! From Bard® Radiology – When It Comes To Core Samples, I Demand	
		Accuracy And Consistency For All My Patients"; Bard Radiology; 1987; 4 pages.	
		"NUCLEOTOME® SYSTEM – Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy™"; Surgical Dynamics®; 1990; 4 pages.	
		- J ,, I J	

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**